

# TWIF

WISHES ALL OUR MEMBERS

*Happy New Year 2025!*



**DECEMBER 2024**

## GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DAN McCARTHY

**2024** was a busy year for all countries and teams. The year started with a **World indoor Championship in Helsingborg Sweden** at the beginning of February, this was their first time they organised a world indoor championship. The arena was impressive with everything under the one roof. A large number of countries and teams took part over the four days. For some countries it was their first time and they performed well. Overall the standard was of high quality and everyone enjoyed the championship.

At the beginning of April we attended **Congress in Nottingham** where the 2025 Outdoor Championships will

take place. At the seminar several discussions took place regarding the future - we also inspected the Arena and the accommodation for 2025. During congress decisions and rule changes were voted on.

The first week of May the secretary general Maaïke and myself, attended the **IWGA AGM** which was held in Germany. During the meeting the 2025 World Games were discussed and the venue for the next World Games was voted on - this will be held in Karlsruhe Germany.

August as we're all aware saw **Paris** hosting the **Olympics**, which were attended by the secretary general Maaïke and myself, on an invitation from the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

French Tug of War association, where over two days, our sport was promoted and demonstrated, with a large number of people attending. It was ironic that the last time Tug of War was part of the Olympics was in Paris in 1920. A special word of thanks to the organisers, who put a great deal of effort and time over a seven year period to ensure this event took place. During the visit I spoke with members of the IOC, and made them aware of our concerns regarding future participation in the Olympics. I was a little surprised that some IOC members, didn't realise that Twif are full members of the IOC, therefore is very important that every country makes contact with their own governing IOC board, and let them know our position. The feedback mainly focused on growth globally so it's up to everyone around the world to ensure that this happens.

September was in **Mannheim Germany**, who were the hosts for the **2024 World Outdoor Championships**. Here it was decided who would qualify for the World Games in Chengdu China that will take place during the first week of August 2025. A large number of countries took part, with the top six countries in three different weight categories going forward, Men 640 kg, Women 500 kg, Mixed 580 kg. As we are aware the World Games is the pinnacle of our sport. Since then the senior vice president Pete Dyer, who is the competition manager for the World Games has visited Chengdu, inspecting the Arena and the accommodation (see page 6).

October in **Switzerland** was the venue for the **ARISF Meeting** which was attended by the secretary general Maaike. November in Switzerland again was the venue for the **IWGA Workshop** with was attended by Anton Botha. (see page 8). November there was an invitation to a championship in Taipei, and also a seminar over two days. During the seminar presentations were given by members of TWIF on several topics, to representatives from several Asian countries. The senior vice president Pete Dyer, as Doping control officer gave a detailed explanation of what is required by everyone. Wendy Dyer as a TWIF recorder gave a detailed account of what's needed regarding score keeping during a championship. The vice president Jost Waser, who is Chairman of the technical and athletes commission outlined what is involved from the technical aspect. Two

of our TWIF judges, Angelika Eiermann and Matthias Arnouts gave very detailed presentations regarding rules and judging during a championship (see pages 2 and 3).

The above is a summary of what happened during 2024, but an enormous amount of unseen work takes place on a daily basis, by the Exco members - without them TWIF couldn't exist.

2025 already looks busy as you can see alongside. Besides these there are a lot of other events that will be taking place in various countries.

**We wish our members, athletes and officials all the best for 2025.**

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 2025

**INTERNATIONAL TUG OF WAR DAY**  
19 February 2025

**BRITISH AND IRISH  
INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
Newport, Wales | 8 - 9 February 2025

**CONGRESS**  
Mossel Bay, South Africa  
20 - 22 March 2025

**THE MASTERS**  
Taipei | 18 - 23 May 2025

**MOSNANG INTERNATIONAL  
TOURNAMENT**  
Switzerland | 29 - 31 May 2025

**WORLD GAMES**  
Chengdu, China | 17 - 17 August 2025

**GENSB TOURNAMENT**  
Netherlands | August 2025

**EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
World Junior and u23 Championships  
Nottingham, England  
4 - 7 September 2025

2025

2025

7 DECEMBER

# THE ENGLISH NATIONAL INDOOR TUG OF WAR CHAMPIONSHIPS TOOK PLACE IN THE TOWN OF BAKEWELL, DERBYSHIRE

THE RESULTS WERE:

WEIGHT	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Men 560kg	Bosley	Uppertown	Sheen
Men 600kg	Uppertown	Bosley	Sheen
Men 640kg	Sheen	Kilroe	Uppertown
Men 680kg	Sheen	Kilroe	Uppertown
Men 720kg	Sheen	Kilroe	
Men Catchweight	Sheen	Bosley	
Mixed 580kg	Kilroe	Sheen	
Junior GENSB	Area 1	Northern Region	Sheen
U23 Mixed	Kilroe	Northern Region	

ARTICLE BY ALAN KNOTT | PHOTOS BY JAMIE





# MERRY CHRISTMAS

The organising committee of the 2025 European Championships and World Junior and Under 23 Championships would like to wish all tug of war competitors, officials and supporters a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We hope that everyone has a successful 2025 and we look forward to welcoming everyone to Nottingham in September. Make sure you are following [@tugofwar2025](#) on Facebook and Instagram for news and updates about this event and how to participate in due course!



AREA 1 GENSB



BOSLEY



KILROE



KILROE U23 MIXED

Full results, photos and videos are available at <http://www.tugofwar.co.uk/2024-news-pages/2024-national-indoor-tug-of-war-championships-results>

# CHINESE TAIPEI INTERNATIONAL Judge & Recorder Training Course



*Participants and presenters that took part in the courses.*

## *The 2024 Chinese Taipei International Tug of War Judge & Recorder Training Course was held in Taipei in November.*

This is the first time that Taiwan has held an international judge course and it was successfully attended by judges from more than 8 countries, including Taiwan, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, India, Malaysia, Mongolia and Macau.

The course was planned to take place over two full days. The first day opened with a keynote speech, and the second day were discussions. The organisers had invited the executive committee and judges of TWIF, and they passed on their experiences to tug of war professionals and to those who would hope to be international judges.

The course had 6 topics: an introduction to tug of war that was presented by Dan McCarthy, President (below); Pulling Techniques presented by Jost Waser (below right), Vice President; Anti-Doping Education presented by Pete Dyer, Senior Vice President; Sports Equipment presented by Angelika Eiermann, Judge; Infringements of Rules presented by Matthias Arnouts, Judge; Recorder Methods presented by Wendy Dyer, Recorder.

These TWIF professional speakers had prepared excellent lectures and so the participants from the many countries learned a lot!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



*An Introduction to Tug of War was presented by Dan McCarthy, President TWIF.*



*Pulling Techniques was presented by Jost Waser, right.*



*Infringements of Rules* was presented by Matthias Arnouts, Judge, TWIF.



*Anti-Doping Education* was presented by Pete Dyer, Senior Vice President TWIF.



*Sports Equipment* was presented by Angelika Eiermann, Judge.



*The course not only strengthened the professional ability of judges, but also enhanced the participants' understanding of the responsibilities and importance of the role of Tug of War judges, laying a solid foundation for their future careers as judges.*

*We hope we have cultivated more excellent judges for Asian Tug of War.*

*Thanks again to TWIF for its full support and the successful completion of this course.*

*While in Taipei, Tug of War International Federation President Dan McCarthy, Senior Vice President Pete Dyer, Vice President Jost Waser, and Judges and Recorders scouted venues for the 2026 World Indoor Championship - and visited the Taipei Arena.*

Taipei Arena is an important indoor venue within the sports facilities of Taipei City. The building is divided into a main stadium and an auxiliary stadium. The total floor area is approximately 90,900 square meters. The main stadium is 76 meters long and 41.5 meters wide, which has the capacity to seat approximately 15,000 spectators and because of the flexible nature of the venue, it is popular for hosting high-level international sports events.

The main venue is equipped with dressing rooms, lounges and offices of various sizes for the use of contestants

and administrative staff. The lounges and unloading areas are also equipped with wired and wireless network services, as well as commercial facilities; including restaurants, convenience stores and fitness centres - so enough to meet everyone's dining, shopping and entertainment needs.

The president of TWIF, Dan McCarthy, led the team to confirm the space and equipment of the indoor venues, such as competition venues, warm-up areas, record control desks, scoreboards, live broadcasts, etc., and also provided suggestions for the venues.



*Inside and outside of the very large Taipei Arena.*

Chinese Taipei Tug of War Association is very grateful to the International Tug of War Federation for the visit and says:

*"We will continue to prepare for the 2026 World Indoor Tug of War Championship and believe that we will be able to provide excellent service that will promote good memories to the teams that participate from all over the world".*



**2026 WORLD  
INDOOR  
TUG OF WAR  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**March 12 - 15, 2026**

**Taipei Arena,  
Taipei City/ Taiwan**

*See you in 2026!*



# An IWGA WORKSHOP on Communication and Social Media was held in Lausanne, Switzerland



*The International World Games Association (IWGA) hosted a dynamic workshop on communication and social media in Lausanne, Switzerland, bringing together key stakeholders to enhance digital engagement strategies.*

*Held on 27 and 28 November 2024, the event focused on equipping member federations and partners with tools to amplify their visibility and connect with global audiences.*

***Anton Botha, TWIF Treasurer, right, attended the workshop on behalf of TWIF.***

Experts in digital media and sports communication shared insights on effective storytelling, content creation, and leveraging platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and X (formerly Twitter). Interactive sessions allowed participants to exchange best practices and discuss the challenges of building a unified brand voice while catering to diverse audiences.

During one of the breaks, attendees were introduced to our beloved sport and had the opportunity to engage in some actual pulling (see photo above).

IWGA President José Perurena emphasized the importance of digital outreach in promoting The World Games and its values. He said:

*“Strong communication is vital for the growth of our sports and the engagement of younger generations.”*



**The workshop underscored the IWGA’s commitment to fostering innovation and collaboration across the global sports community.**





## Women Lead Sport

*The IWGA (International World Games Association) gave their IF's (International Federations) that are active at the World Games the chance to be part of a 4-day **Women Lead Sport Programme**, lead by Gabriëla Müller Mendoza, a very inspiring woman that gave the online course.*

**F**or TWIF only one woman was allowed to take part in the course, so I attended the 4 online sessions and got a lot of information of how to empower potential female leaders to serve in elective positions, to indicate how women can present themselves better and be able to be active on social media and/or try to work on their goals in the sport. My main goal in participating in the course was to learn

how to get more women inspired to apply for functions on the board or how to become officials in their active Tug of War career.

There were twenty two IF's who attended and we made a plan to meet in person during the World Games in Chengdu, so that we can expand our network as women in the international sports world.

**MAAIKE HORNSTRA**